

Incidence Matrices of Polarized Projective Spaces*

Chunlei Liu[†], Haode Yan[‡]

April 24, 2013

Abstract

In this paper, we first define a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form on \mathbb{F}_q^4 . Then we get an incidence matrix \mathbf{G} of \mathbb{F}_q^4 by the bilinear form. By its corresponding quadratic form Q , the lines of \mathbb{F}_q^4 are classified as isotropic and anisotropic lines. Under this classification, we can get two sub-matrices of \mathbf{G} and prove their 2-rank.

Key words and phrases: finite field, quadratic form, incidence matrix.

1 INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper, q is an odd prime power, and \mathbb{F}_q is the finite field with q elements. We endow the space $V = \mathbb{F}_q^4$ with a polarization, i.e., a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear form $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ over \mathbb{F}_q . Let Q be the corresponding quadratic form, without loss of generality, we always assume that $Q(X) = x_0^2 - x_1^2 + x_2^2 - \alpha x_3^2$, where α is a nonzero element in \mathbb{F}_q . As usual, we denote by $\mathbf{P}(V)$ the projective space of V , which is formed of the 1-dimensional subspaces of V . For each nonzero vector $X \in V$, let $\bar{X} \in \mathbf{P}(V)$ be the 1-dimensional subspace generated by X . The quadratic form Q gives rise to a matrix whose rows and columns are indexed by elements of $\mathbf{P}(V)$. This matrix is defined by the formula

$$\mathbf{G} : \mathbf{P}(V) \times \mathbf{P}(V) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, \mathbf{G}(\bar{X}, \bar{Y}) = \begin{cases} 1, & \bar{X} \perp \bar{Y}, \\ 0, & \bar{X} \not\perp \bar{Y}. \end{cases}$$

We call that matrix the incidence matrix of $\mathbf{P}(V)$ associated to Q .

A vector $\bar{X} \in \mathbf{P}(V)$ is called *isotropic* or *anisotropic* according to whether $X \in V$ is *isotropic* or *anisotropic*. Let I (resp. A) be the set of isotropic (resp. anisotropic) vectors in $\mathbf{P}(V)$, and set

$$\mathbf{G}_{II} = \mathbf{G}|_{I \times I} \text{ and } \mathbf{G}_{AA} = \mathbf{G}|_{A \times A}.$$

*This work is supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 11071160).

[†]Dept. of Math., Shanghai Jiaotong Univ., Shanghai, 200240, clliu@sjtu.edu.cn.

[‡]Corresponding author, Dept. of Math., SJTU, Shanghai, 200240, hdyan@sjtu.edu.cn.

From [1, 3], we have that the 2-rank of \mathbf{G}_{II} is $q + 1$ and the 2-rank of \mathbf{G}_{AA} is $q^2 - 1$, respectively, in the case of $V = \mathbb{F}_q^3$. Moreover, based on computational evidence, it was conjectured in [1] that in the case of $V = \mathbb{F}_q^3$, \mathbf{G}_{II} is always full rank and \mathbf{G}_{AA} is full rank or its 2-rank is one less than its order according to n is odd or even. In this paper, we will prove the following theorem:

Theorem 1.1 *In the case of $V = \mathbb{F}_q^4$, \mathbf{G}_{II} and \mathbf{G}_{AA} are of full rank.*

2 The isotropic case

Proposition 2.1 *\mathbf{G}_{II} is of full rank over \mathbb{F}_2 .*

Lemma 2.2 *If \bar{X}, \bar{Y} are different isotropic lines such that $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$. Then any line on the plane that generated by \bar{X} and \bar{Y} is isotropic.*

Proof. The lines on that plane is in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Y)$. Because \bar{X}, \bar{Y} are isotropic lines and $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$. Consider with the bilinear form, we get $\langle k_1 X + k_2 Y, k_1 X + k_2 Y \rangle = 0$, any $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q$. Lemma has proved. ■

Lemma 2.3 *If there are three different isotropic lines on a plane, then any line on that plane is isotropic.*

Proof. Suppose $\bar{X}, \bar{Y}, \bar{Z}$ are different isotropic lines on a common plane. Then \bar{Z} is an element in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Y)$. From $\langle Z, Z \rangle = 0$, we get $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$. From prop 1.1, we can get the result. ■

From the bilinear form, consider the lines in the orthogonal complement of \bar{X} . We use \bar{X}^\perp to represent the set of the lines in this hyperplane, it is $\bar{X}^\perp = \{\bar{W} | \langle W, X \rangle = 0\}$. Then we get following lemma.

Lemma 2.4 *$\bar{X}, \bar{Y}, \bar{Z}$ are different lines, and $\bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp = \bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp \cap \bar{Z}^\perp$. Then \bar{Z} is in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Y)$.*

Proof. From the question we can get two groups of equations. Because they have same solutions, so the rank of coefficient matrix must be same. \bar{X}, \bar{Y} are different lines, so the rank of the first coefficient matrix is 2, so is the second coefficient matrix. Then Z can be linear represented as $k_1 X + k_2 Y$, $k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q$, lemma has proved. ■

Lemma 2.5 (1) *let α be a nonzero square element of \mathbb{F}_q , that is $Q(X) = x_0^2 - x_1^2 + x_2^2 - x_3^2$. We can get: any isotropic line \bar{X} , there are $2q + 1$ isotropic lines and $q^2 - q$ anisotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp ; any anisotropic line \bar{Y} , there are $q + 1$ isotropic lines and q^2 anisotropic lines on \bar{Y}^\perp .*

(2) *let α be a non-square element of \mathbb{F}_q , that is $Q(X) = x_0^2 - x_1^2 + x_2^2 - \alpha x_3^2$. We can get: any isotropic line \bar{X} , there is 1 isotropic line and $q^2 + q$ anisotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp ; any anisotropic line \bar{Y} , there are $q + 1$ isotropic lines and q^2 anisotropic lines on \bar{Y}^\perp .*

Proof. According to [1](lemma 1.9), we know if α is a nonzero square element, there are $q^2 + 2q + 1$ isotropic lines and $q^3 - q$ anisotropic lines on \mathbb{F}_q^4 . If α is a non-square element, there are $q^2 + 1$ isotropic lines and $q^3 + q$ anisotropic lines on \mathbb{F}_q^4 .

(1) First we prove there are $2q + 1$ isotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . $\langle X, X \rangle = 0$, we want to find line \bar{Z} such that $\langle X, Z \rangle = 0$ and $\langle Z, Z \rangle = 0$ set up at the same time. Let $X = (x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$, discuss below:

1. $x_0^2 - x_1^2 \neq 0$.

So, we get $x_0^2 - x_1^2 = x_3^2 - x_2^2 \neq 0$. Consider $P = (x_3 - x_2, x_3 + x_2, x_0 - x_1, x_0 + x_1)$, $Q = (x_3 + x_2, x_3 - x_2, -x_0 + x_1, x_0 + x_1)$ are the solutions of equations. We can verify that $P, Q \neq (0, 0, 0, 0)$ and $\bar{X}, \bar{P}, \bar{Q}$ are different. Now, we get two different isotropic lines \bar{P}, \bar{Q} on \bar{X}^\perp , and $\langle P, Q \rangle = -2(x_0^2 - x_1^2) \neq 0$. We know $\bar{X}, \bar{P}, \bar{Q}$ are not in a common plane, otherwise, according to lemma 2.2, lines on the plane are all isotropic. In particular, line $\bar{P} + \bar{Q}$ is an isotropic line. We can get $\langle P, Q \rangle = 0$ by the bilinear form and $\langle P, P \rangle = \langle Q, Q \rangle = 0$, contradiction. Because \bar{X}, \bar{P} are isotropic lines and $\langle X, P \rangle = 0$, according to lemma 2.2, the lines on the plane that generated by \bar{X} and \bar{P} are all isotropic. It means the elements in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q P)$ are isotropic. The same as plane generated by \bar{X}, \bar{Q} , we get the elements in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$ are isotropic. We can calculate each of $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q P)$ and $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$ has $q + 1$ elements, and \bar{X} is the unique element in both of them. So, we get $2q + 1$ different isotropic lines in \bar{X}^\perp . Let's proof there isn't any other isotropic line on \bar{X}^\perp . Regard $\bar{X}, \bar{P}, \bar{Q}$ as basis of \bar{X}^\perp , the lines on \bar{X}^\perp can be expressed as $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$. If there is another isotropic line on \bar{X}^\perp , let it be \bar{R} , $R = k_1 X + k_2 P + k_3 Q$, according to $\langle R, R \rangle = 0$, we can get $k_2 = 0$ or $k_3 = 0$, R is in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q P)$ or $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$, contradiction. So, in this case, there are $2q + 1$ isotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp .

2. $x_0^2 - x_1^2 = 0$, but $x_3^2 - x_2^2 \neq 0$.

Let $\dot{x}_0 = x_3, \dot{x}_1 = x_0, \dot{x}_2 = x_1, \dot{x}_3 = x_2$. According to $x_0^2 - x_1^2 + x_2^2 - x_3^2 = 0$, we can get $\dot{x}_0^2 - \dot{x}_1^2 + \dot{x}_2^2 - \dot{x}_3^2 = 0$, and $\dot{x}_0^2 - \dot{x}_1^2 \neq 0$. It's same as case 1.

3. $x_0^2 - x_1^2 = 0$ and $x_3^2 - x_2^2 = 0$.

It means $x_0^2 = x_1^2 = x_2^2 = x_3^2$. Then \bar{X} is one of the lines below: $\overline{(1, 1, 1, 1)}, \overline{(1, 1, 1, -1)}, \overline{(1, 1, -1, 1)}, \overline{(1, 1, -1, -1)}, \overline{(1, -1, 1, 1)}, \overline{(1, -1, 1, -1)}, \overline{(1, -1, -1, 1)}, \overline{(1, -1, -1, -1)}$. Similar to the proof above, any \bar{X} , if we find out two distinct isotropic line \bar{P}, \bar{Q} , and $\langle P, Q \rangle \neq 0$, then we can prove there are $2q + 1$ isotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp .

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, 1, 1, 1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, 1, -1, -1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, -1, -1, 1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, 1, 1, -1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, 1, -1, 1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, -1, -1, -1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, 1, -1, 1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, 1, 1, -1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, -1, 1, 1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, 1, -1, -1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, 1, 1, 1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, -1, 1, -1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, -1, 1, 1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, -1, -1, -1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, 1, -1, 1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, -1, 1, -1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, -1, -1, 1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, 1, -1, -1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, -1, -1, 1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, -1, 1, -1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, 1, 1, 1)}$.

If $\bar{X} = \overline{(1, -1, -1, -1)}$, let $\bar{P} = \overline{(1, -1, 1, 1)}, \bar{Q} = \overline{(1, 1, 1, -1)}$.

In conclusion, we proved when α is a nonzero square element, any isotropic line \bar{X} on \mathbb{F}_q^4 , there are $2q + 1$ isotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . Because there are $q^2 + q + 1$ lines on \bar{X}^\perp , so

there are $q^2 - q$ anisotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . If \bar{Y} is an anisotropic line, we can calculate that the number of isotropic lines on \bar{Y}^\perp equals $\frac{(q+1)^2(q^2-q)}{q^3-q}$, it is $q+1$. The number of anisotropic lines on \bar{Y}^\perp is q^2 . (1) has proved.

(2) Now α is a non-square element and $Q(X) = x_0^2 - x_1^2 + x_2^2 - \alpha x_3^2$. If $X = (x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$ and line \bar{X} is an isotropic line, we want to prove \bar{X} is the unique isotropic line on \bar{X}^\perp . Discuss below:

1'. $x_2^2 \neq \alpha x_3^2$. It is said $x_0^2 - x_1^2 = x_2^2 - \alpha x_3^2 \neq 0$. $\bar{X} \in \bar{X}^\perp$, and we can find out $P = (x_1, x_0, \alpha x_3, x_2)$, $Q = (-x_1, -x_0, \alpha x_3, x_2)$. $\bar{P}, \bar{Q} \in \bar{X}^\perp$. We can verify that \bar{P}, \bar{Q} are different lines and $\bar{X}, \bar{P}, \bar{Q}$ are not in a common plane. Notice that $\langle P, P \rangle = \langle Q, Q \rangle = (1 - \alpha)(x_2^2 - \alpha x_3^2) \neq 0$. So \bar{P}, \bar{Q} are anisotropic lines. Consider if there exists an isotropic line $\bar{M} \in \mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$. Let $M = k_1 P + k_2 Q$, obviously $k_1, k_2 \neq 0$. From $\langle M, M \rangle = 0$, we get $\langle k_1 P + k_2 Q, k_1 P + k_2 Q \rangle = k_1^2 \langle P, P \rangle + 2k_1 k_2 \langle P, Q \rangle + k_2^2 \langle Q, Q \rangle = 0$. Regard this equation as a quadratic equation about k_1 . $\Delta = 16\alpha k_2^2(x_2^2 - \alpha x_3^2)$ is a non-square element, so the equation has no solution. It means there is no isotropic line in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$. Any $\bar{M} \in \mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$, $\langle M, M \rangle \neq 0$, but $\langle X, M \rangle = k_1 \langle X, P \rangle + k_2 \langle X, Q \rangle = 0$. Consider $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q M)$, any $\bar{t}_1 \bar{X} + \bar{t}_2 \bar{M} \in \mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q M)$, if $t_2 \neq 0$, $\langle t_1 X + t_2 M, t_1 X + t_2 M \rangle = t_1^2 \langle X, X \rangle + 2t_1 t_2 \langle X, M \rangle + t_2^2 \langle M, M \rangle = t_2^2 \langle M, M \rangle \neq 0$, so \bar{X} is the unique isotropic line in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q M)$. And \bar{M} is any line in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$, there are $q+1$ kinds of choices. So we can get $q+1$ planes, every of them has one isotropic line \bar{X} and q anisotropic lines. Every two planes has only one common line, it is \bar{X} . So we get $q(q+1)$ different anisotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . Because \bar{X}^\perp has $q^2 + q + 1$ lines, so they are the $q(q+1)$ different anisotropic lines and \bar{X} . Case 1' has proved.

2'. $x_2^2 = \alpha x_3^2$. Because α is a non-square element, so $x_2 = x_3 = 0$. Then we know $x_0 = \pm x_1$. So there are only two lines satisfy this condition, $\overline{(1, 1, 0, 0)}$ and $\overline{(1, -1, 0, 0)}$. Solve the equations we can get there is only one isotropic line $\overline{(1, 1, 0, 0)}$ and $q^2 + q$ anisotropic lines on $\overline{(1, 1, 0, 0)}^\perp$, there is only one isotropic line $\overline{(1, -1, 0, 0)}$ and $q^2 + q$ anisotropic lines on $\overline{(1, -1, 0, 0)}^\perp$.

In conclusion, we proved when α is a non-square element, any isotropic line \bar{X} in \mathbb{F}_q^4 , there is 1 isotropic line and $q^2 + q$ anisotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . If \bar{Y} is an anisotropic line, we can calculate the number of isotropic lines on \bar{Y}^\perp equals $\frac{(q^2+1)(q^2+q)}{q^3+q}$, it is equals $q+1$, and the number of anisotropic lines on \bar{Y}^\perp is q^2 . (2) has proved. ■

Lemma 2.6 \bar{P}, \bar{Q} are different isotropic lines, then the number of isotropic lines on $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$ is even.

Proof. If there is no isotropic line on $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$, the number must be 0, even. If $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$ has some isotropic lines, then select \bar{X} , so $\langle X, X \rangle = 0$, select $\bar{Y} \in \bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$, $\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X}$. $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$ is a 2-dimensional subspace of V , so it can be generated by \bar{X}, \bar{Y} . First we want to prove $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$ and $\langle Y, Y \rangle \neq 0$ can't set up at the same time. Otherwise, $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$ and $\langle Y, Y \rangle \neq 0$. So $\bar{X}, \bar{Y} \in \bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp \cap \bar{X}^\perp$, $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp \subset \bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp \cap \bar{X}^\perp$. It means $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp = \bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp \cap \bar{X}^\perp$. According to lemma 2.4, we know $X = t_1 P + t_2 Q$, $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q$. We can always obtain $\langle P, Q \rangle = 0$ from $\langle X, X \rangle = 0$. Now $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp = \mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$. From lemma 2.2, lines in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q P + \mathbb{F}_q Q)$ are all isotropic lines. In particular, $\bar{Y} \in \bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$, so

$\langle Y, Y \rangle = 0$, contradiction. It means $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$ and $\langle Y, Y \rangle \neq 0$ can't set up at the same time.

Lines on $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$ are in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Y)$. Count the number of isotropic lines in $\mathbf{P}(\mathbb{F}_q X + \mathbb{F}_q Y) - \{\bar{X}\}$. We must solve equation $\langle t_1 X + t_2 Y, t_1 X + t_2 Y \rangle = 0, t_2 \neq 0$. Without loss of generality, let $t_2 = 1$. It is $2t_1 \langle X, Y \rangle + \langle Y, Y \rangle = 0$. Discuss below:

case 1: $\langle X, Y \rangle = 0$, then $\langle Y, Y \rangle = 0$ must be set up. At this time, t_1 has q solutions. There are $q + 1$ isotropic lines on $\bar{P}^\perp \cap \bar{Q}^\perp$. Even.

case 2: $\langle X, Y \rangle \neq 0$. At this time, t_1 has only 1 solution. Then the number is 2, even. Lemma has proved. ■

Now we can prove prop 2.1.

1. α is a nonzero square element. We calculate \mathbf{G}_{II}^2 . The element at position (\bar{X}, \bar{X}) of \mathbf{G}_{II}^2 equals the number of isotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . According to lemma 2.5(1), it is $2q + 1$, odd. The element at position (\bar{X}, \bar{Y}) ($\bar{X} \neq \bar{Y}$) of \mathbf{G}_{II}^2 is the number of isotropic lines on $\bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp$. According to lemma 2.6, it is even. So, $\mathbf{G}_{II}^2 \equiv I \pmod{2}$. So, \mathbf{G}_{II} is of full rank.

2. α is a non-square element. According to lemma 2.5(2), the unique isotropic line on \bar{X}^\perp is \bar{X} . So, $\mathbf{G}_{II} = I$. Full rank. The proposition has proved.

3 The anisotropic case

Proposition 3.1 *The 2-rank of \mathbf{G}_{AA} is of full rank over \mathbb{F}_2 .*

Lemma 3.2 *Suppose \bar{P}_1, \bar{P}_2 are different anisotropic lines. Then there is only one isotropic line on $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$ if and only if $\langle P_1, P_1 \rangle \langle P_2, P_2 \rangle = \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle^2$.*

Proof.

\Rightarrow . If $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$ has only one isotropic line \bar{Z} , then, any other $\bar{X} \in \bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$, we have $\langle X, X \rangle \neq 0$. \bar{Z} is the unique, so $\langle X + kZ, X + kZ \rangle \neq 0, k \in \mathbb{F}_q$. It means $\langle X, X \rangle + 2k\langle X, Z \rangle = 0$ has no solutions. So $\langle X, Z \rangle = 0, \bar{X} \in \bar{Z}^\perp$. And $\bar{Z} \in \bar{Z}^\perp$, so we get $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp \subset \bar{Z}^\perp$, it is $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp \cap \bar{Z}^\perp = \bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$. According to lemma 2.4, \bar{Z} is on the plane that generated by \bar{P}_1, \bar{P}_2 . Because $\bar{Z} \neq \bar{P}_1, \bar{P}_2$, so we can suppose $Z = t_1 P_1 + t_2 P_2, t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$. From $\bar{Z} \in \bar{P}_1^\perp$, we know $\langle P_1, Z \rangle = 0$, it is $t_1 \langle P_1, P_1 \rangle + t_2 \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle = 0$. From $\bar{Z} \in \bar{P}_2^\perp$, we know $\langle P_2, Z \rangle = 0$, it is $t_1 \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle + t_2 \langle P_2, P_2 \rangle = 0$. $t_1, t_2 \neq 0$, we can get $\langle P_1, P_1 \rangle \langle P_2, P_2 \rangle = \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle^2$.

\Leftarrow . If $\langle P_1, P_1 \rangle \langle P_2, P_2 \rangle = \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle^2$, so $\langle P_1, P_2 \rangle \neq 0$. Let $\frac{\langle P_1, P_1 \rangle}{\langle P_2, P_2 \rangle} = \frac{\langle P_1, P_2 \rangle}{\langle P_2, P_2 \rangle} = t_0 \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$. We can obtain $\langle P_1, P_1 - t_0 P_2 \rangle = \langle P_2, P_1 - t_0 P_2 \rangle = 0$. So $\overline{P_1 - t_0 P_2} \in \bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$. If there exists another isotropic line $\bar{Y} \in \bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$, we can get $\langle Y, P_1 \rangle = 0, \langle Y, P_2 \rangle = 0$. It means $\langle Y, P_1 - t_0 P_2 \rangle = 0$. From lemma 2.1, we know the lines in $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$ are all isotropic. $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$ is a plane, the number of lines on it is $q + 1$, and \bar{P}_1, \bar{P}_2 are anisotropic lines, from lemma 2.5, no matter α is a nonzero square element or a non-square element, the number of isotropic lines on \bar{P}_1^\perp and \bar{P}_2^\perp is $q + 1$. So $\bar{P}_1^\perp = \bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp = \bar{P}_2^\perp$. $\bar{P}_1 = \bar{P}_2$, contradiction. So $\overline{P_1 - t_0 P_2}$ is the unique isotropic line on $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$. Lemma has proved. ■

From lemma 2.2, the number of isotropic lines on a plane is 0, 1, 2 or $q + 1$. In lemma 3.2, we know if $\langle P_1, P_1 \rangle \langle P_2, P_2 \rangle \neq \langle P_1, P_2 \rangle^2$, the number of isotropic lines on $\bar{P}_1^\perp \cap \bar{P}_2^\perp$ is even.

We know N denote the set of anisotropic line in $P(V)$. We also divide N into two parts, S and T . $S = \{\bar{X} \in P(V) | Q(X) \text{ equals a nonzero square element in } \mathbb{F}_q\}$, $T = \{\bar{X} \in P(V) | Q(X) \text{ equals a nonsquare element in } \mathbb{F}_q\}$. The lines in S are called square anisotropic lines and the lines in T are called non-square anisotropic lines. N is the disjoint union of S and T . Any $\bar{X} \in S$, we know $Q(X)$ equals a nonzero square element. We can find unique k_X such that $Q(k_X X) = 1$, $k_X \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$, \bar{X} and $\overline{k_X X}$ are the same line. Similarly, if $\bar{Y} \in T$, we know $Q(X)$ equals a non-square element. We can find unique k_Y such that $Q(k_Y Y) = \beta$, $k_Y \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$, β is a fixed non-square element in \mathbb{F}_q^* , \bar{Y} and $\overline{k_Y Y}$ is the same line. So in the following discussion, if \bar{X} denotes a square anisotropic line, then we choose X such that $\langle X, X \rangle = 1$. Similarly, if \bar{Y} denotes a non-square anisotropic line, then we choose Y such that $\langle Y, Y \rangle = \beta$.

Lemma 3.3 \bar{X} is a fixed square anisotropic line, such that $\langle X, X \rangle = 1$. Then the number of \bar{Y} satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Y \rangle^2 = 1 \\ \langle Y, Y \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

is even ($\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X}$).

Proof. The equation has two parts:

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Y \rangle = 1 \\ \langle Y, Y \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Y \rangle = -1 \\ \langle Y, Y \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

If Y is a solution of (2), then $-Y$ is a solution of (3). Similarly, if Y is a solution of (3), then $-Y$ is a solution of (2). Consider \bar{Y} and $\overline{-Y}$ are the same line, so we only solve equations (2). $\langle Y - X, X \rangle = \langle Y, X \rangle - \langle X, X \rangle = 0$, $\langle Y - X, Y - X \rangle = \langle Y, Y \rangle - 2\langle Y, X \rangle + \langle X, X \rangle = 0$. So $\overline{Y - X}$ is an isotropic line and $\overline{Y - X} \in \bar{X}^\perp$. From lemma 2.5, when \bar{X} is an anisotropic line, there are $q + 1$ isotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp , no matter α is a nonzero square element or a non-square element. Let $\bar{X}_0, \bar{X}_1, \dots, \bar{X}_q$ be the $q + 1$ isotropic lines, then $\overline{Y - X} = \bar{X}_i$, $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, q\}$. We get $Y = X + kX_i$, $k \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$, because $\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X}$. We can verify $Y = X + kX_i$ are the solutions and different \bar{Y} represent different lines. In conclusion, the number of Y is $q^2 - 1$, even. ■

Lemma 3.4 \bar{X}, \bar{Y} are fixed square anisotropic line, $\bar{X} \neq \bar{Y}$. $\langle X, X \rangle = \langle Y, Y \rangle = 1$. Then

the number of \bar{Z} satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Z \rangle^2 = 1 \\ \langle Y, Z \rangle^2 = 1 \\ \langle Z, Z \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

is even ($\bar{Z} \neq \bar{X}, \bar{Y}$).

Proof. The equation has four parts.

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Z \rangle = 1 \\ \langle Y, Z \rangle = 1 \\ \langle Z, Z \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Z \rangle = 1 \\ \langle Y, Z \rangle = -1 \\ \langle Z, Z \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Z \rangle = -1 \\ \langle Y, Z \rangle = 1 \\ \langle Z, Z \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Z \rangle = -1 \\ \langle Y, Z \rangle = -1 \\ \langle Z, Z \rangle = 1 \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

Consider that the solution of (5) and (8) represent the same lines and the solution of (6) and (7) represent the same lines, so we only solve (5) and (6). It is clear (5) and (6) have no same solution. Discuss below:

case 1. $\langle X, Y \rangle \neq \pm 1$. First we find out nonzero constants $k_1 = (-1 - \langle X, Y \rangle) / (1 - \langle X, Y \rangle)$, $k_2 = 2 / (1 - \langle X, Y \rangle)$, such that $k_1 + k_2 = 1$, $k_1 + \langle X, Y \rangle k_2 = -1$. If Z is a solution of (5), then $k_1 Z + k_2 X$ is a solution of (6), similarly, if Z' is a solution of (6), then $(Z' - k_2 X) / k_1$ is a solution of (5). In conclusion, if the solutions of (5) or (6) exist, the number of solution of (4) is even. If (5) and (6) both have no solutions, the number is zero, also even. Case 1 has proved.

case 2. $\langle X, Y \rangle = 1$. First we solve equation (5). We can get $\langle Z - X, X \rangle = 0$, $\langle Z - X, Y \rangle = 0$, $\langle Z - X, Z - X \rangle = 0$. $Z \neq X$, so $\overline{Z - X}$ is an isotropic line and $\overline{Z - X} \in \bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp$. Because \bar{X} and \bar{Y} are different anisotropic lines, according to lemma 3.2, $\bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp$ has unique isotropic line, let it be \bar{W} . Then $\overline{Z - X} = \bar{W}$, we got $Z - X = tW$, $t \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$, $q - 1$ solutions. Notice that $Y - X$ satisfies $\overline{Y - X} \in \bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp$, $Y \neq X$, so Y has form $Y = X + t_0 W$, $t_0 \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$. Y must be one of the $q - 1$ solutions. Delete Y from the $q - 1$ solutions, we got $q - 2$ solutions of (5).

Second we solve equation (6). We can also get $\langle Z - X, X \rangle = 0$, $\langle Z - X, Z - X \rangle = 0$, $Z \neq X$, so $\overline{Z - X}$ is an isotropic line on \bar{X}^\perp . No matter α is a nonzero square element or a non-square element, there are $q + 1$ isotropic lines in \bar{X}^\perp . Let them be $\bar{X}_0, \bar{X}_1, \dots, \bar{X}_q$. So $\overline{Z - X} = \bar{X}_i$, $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, q\}$. Z has form $Z = X + kX_i$, $k \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$. Moreover, Z satisfies $\langle Z, Y \rangle = -1$, it means $\langle X + kX_i, Y \rangle = -1$, $k\langle X_i, Y \rangle = -2$. Consider $\bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp$ has unique isotropic line, let it be \bar{X}_0 . It means $\langle X_0, Y \rangle = 0$, $\langle X_i, Y \rangle \neq 0$, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, q\}$. For X_i , $\langle X_i, Y \rangle \neq 0$, there exists unique $k = k_{X_i}$ such that $k_{X_i}\langle X_i, Y \rangle = -2$. We solve q solutions of (6).

In conclusion, in case 2, the number of solutions of (4) is $2q - 2$, even.

case 3. $\langle X, Y \rangle = -1$. Let $X' = X$, $Y' = -Y$, $Z' = Z$. It's the same as case 2. Lemma has proved. ■

Lemma 3.5 \bar{X} is a fixed non-square anisotropic line, such that $\langle X, X \rangle = \beta$. The number of \bar{Y} satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Y \rangle^2 = \beta^2 \\ \langle Y, Y \rangle = \beta \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

is even ($\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X}$).

The proof is similar to lemma 3.3.

Lemma 3.6 \bar{X}, \bar{Y} are fixed non-square anisotropic line, $\bar{X} \neq \bar{Y}$. $\langle X, X \rangle = \langle Y, Y \rangle = \beta$. The number of \bar{Z} satisfy

$$\begin{cases} \langle X, Z \rangle^2 = \beta^2 \\ \langle Y, Z \rangle^2 = \beta^2 \\ \langle Z, Z \rangle = \beta \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

is even ($\bar{Z} \neq \bar{X}, \bar{Y}$).

The proof is similar to lemma 3.4.

Now we can prove prop 3.1. In the above discussion, we know $N = S \cup T$. So we can give a partition of \mathbf{G}_{AA} .

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{G}_{SS} & \mathbf{G}_{ST} \\ \mathbf{G}_{TS} & \mathbf{G}_{TT} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (11)$$

According to [1], we know the 4 submatrices are all square matrices. First we calculate \mathbf{G}_{AA}^2 . The element at position (\bar{X}, \bar{X}) of \mathbf{G}_{AA}^2 equals the number of anisotropic lines on \bar{X}^\perp . No matter α is a nonzero square element or a non-square element, it is q^2 , odd. The element at position (\bar{X}, \bar{Y}) ($\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X}$) of \mathbf{G}_{AA}^2 equals the number of anisotropic lines on $\bar{X}^\perp \cap \bar{Y}^\perp$. In particular, from lemma 3.2, it is odd if and only if $\langle X, X \rangle \langle Y, Y \rangle = \langle X, Y \rangle^2$. When $\bar{X} \in S$, $\bar{Y} \in T$, we know $\langle X, X \rangle$ equals a square element and $\langle Y, Y \rangle$ equals a non-square element, so $\langle X, X \rangle \langle Y, Y \rangle = \langle X, Y \rangle^2$ can't set up. We obtain $\mathbf{G}_{AA}^2 =$

$$I + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B}_1 & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{B}_2 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2}, \text{ The element on diagonal of } \mathbf{B}_1 \text{ and } \mathbf{B}_2 \text{ are all 0. Then}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{AA}^4 = I + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{B}_1^2 & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{B}_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{2}.$$

We want to prove $\mathbf{B}_1^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, \mathbf{B}_2^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$. Calculate \mathbf{B}_1^2 : The element at position (\bar{X}, \bar{X}) : It equals the number of set $|\{\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X} | \langle X, X \rangle \langle Y, Y \rangle = \langle X, Y \rangle^2, \bar{Y} \in N\}|$. According to lemma 3.3, it is even. The element at position (\bar{X}, \bar{Y}) ($\bar{Y} \neq \bar{X}$): It equals the number of set $|\{\bar{Z} \neq \bar{X}, \bar{Y} | \langle Z, Z \rangle \langle X, X \rangle = \langle Z, X \rangle^2, \langle Z, Z \rangle \langle Y, Y \rangle = \langle Z, Y \rangle^2, \bar{Z} \in N\}|$. According to lemma 3.4, it is even.

Now we get $\mathbf{B}_1^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$. It's similar to \mathbf{B}_2^2 , according to lemma 3.5 and lemma 3.6, we obtain $\mathbf{B}_2^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$. So, $\mathbf{G}_{AA}^4 \equiv I \pmod{2}$, no matter α is a nonzero square element or a non-square element. It is clear the 2-rank of \mathbf{G}_{AA} is of full rank. Prop 3.1 has proved.

References

- [1] Chunlei Liu, Yan Liu, Incidence Matrices of Finite Quadratic Spaces, to appear.
- [2] Kenneth Ireland, Michael Rosen, A Classical Introduction to Modern Number Theory, *Springer-Verlag*(1990).
- [3] J.W.P.Hirschfeld, Projective Geometries over Finite fields, *Oxford University Press*(1998).
- [4] S. Droms, K. E. Mellinger, C. Meyer, LDPC codes generated by conics in the classical projective plan, *Des. Codes Cryptogr.*, **40** (2006), 343-356.
- [5] S. Peter, J. Wu, Q. Xiang, Dimensions of some binary codes arising from a conic in $PG(2, q)$, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A* **118**, **3** (2011), 853-878.
- [6] Adonus L. Madison, J. Wu, On binary codes from conics in $PG(2, q)$, *European J. Combin.* **33** (2012), 33-48.
- [7] J. Wu, Proofs of two conjectures on the dimensions of binary codes, *J. Combin. Theory Ser.* (2012),